PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Akira HIROSHIGE, et al.

Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: March 05, 2002

For:

IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND RECORDING MEDIUM, AND IMAGE

PROCESSING APPARATUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Amend the specification by inserting before the first line the sentence:

This is a continuation of Application No. PCT/JP01/05914 with an international filing date of July 6, 2001, which was published under PCT Article 21(2) in Japanese, and the complete disclosure of which is incorporated into this application by reference.

REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Darryl Mexic

Registration No. 23,063

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20037-3213 Telephone: (202) 293-7060

Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

DM/tmm

Date: March 5, 2002